

DD/M&S Registry

File 04116

Chief, Historical Staff

Walt:

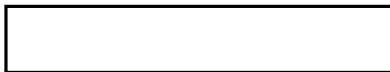
The DD/M&S and ADD/M&S were briefed
on the attached 6/4/74. For your
information and retention.

/s/

LJD *jmh*

STAT

EO-DD/M&S



6/4/74

Att: DD/M&S 74-1998, dtd 3 June 1974, Memo to DCI from Andrew W. Marshall,
Subject: History of the Strategic Arms Competition, 1946-1974

Distribution:


Orig - C/HS w/att.

1 - M&S Subject w/att

1 - M&S Chrono w/o att.

1 - LJD Chrono w/o att.

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DD/M&S/EO/  jmh (4 June 1974)

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

23 May 1974

Memo For William Colby

Attached is a memorandum describing a project I have started as a result of discussion with the Secretary of Defense. I am sending it now because we undoubtedly will be asking for some help and assistance in carrying it out. When I next see you I will tell you about the plans in more detail. We are still at the stage of formulating how to go about the study.


A. W. Marshall



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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

DIRECTOR OF NET ASSESSMENT

3 May 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: History of the Strategic Arms Competition,
1946-1974

OBJECTIVE

Prepare by the summer of 1975 a first class objective historical study and analysis of the strategic arms competition from 1946 to 1974. There should be two versions:

1. Classified (a completely cleared version, available mid 75).
2. Unclassified (derived from the classified version as soon as possible after mid 75).

Since the task is a very large one, the study should focus on providing:

1. A thorough description of the strategic arms competition.
2. An analysis of the nature of the competition that:
 - Tests current hypotheses about the competition and the interaction process.
 - Characterizes the U.S. and Soviet strategies for the competition.
 - Provides improved models and hypotheses about the competition.
3. Special studies of Soviet reactions to U.S. decisions, force posture changes, etc., and Soviet initiatives in the competition.

It is planned that Professor Ernest May of Harvard University will prepare the final overall history, assisted by such associates as he may choose. To provide him with the basic information, ideas, analyses, and hypotheses that he and his associates will need, a number of supporting studies covering the most important aspects of the subjects will be produced. These supporting monographs will distill a far greater body of source materials than could possibly be investigated in the time available by the writers of the final study. The preparation of these monographs -- an indispensable intermediate step -- will require the services and best efforts of a large number of highly qualified professionals, both within and outside of Government. Specification of these studies will be decided by a small steering committee described below.

Examples of aspects that probably will need to be investigated are as follows:

1. The decision processes that influence the evolution of force (R&D, acquisition, deployment, etc.)
2. Military budgets of the United States and the Soviet Union.
3. Intelligence processes of the United States and the Soviet Union with particular reference to acquisition and estimates.
4. Strategic concepts of the United States and the Soviet Union. (This might well require separate studies for individual concepts).
5. Evolution of the major strategic offensive and defensive weapon systems of the United States and the Soviet Union. (These will probably require separate studies of the different weapon systems).
6. Evolution of the strategic forces of the United States and the Soviet Union. (This may have to be divided into the separate forces).
7. Major junctures in the strategic arms competition between the United States and the Soviet Union. (This may require individual studies also).

8. Implications of U.S. and Soviet space activities.

Government agencies with well-qualified people capable of contributing to these studies include the Central Intelligence Agency, the Atomic Energy Commission, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Defense Intelligence Agency, OSD offices, and the military departments. Outside organizations such as RAND, RDA, and IDA will probably also be involved. A letter or memorandum from the Secretary of Defense asking for the assistance of the agencies and offices involved would greatly expedite the project and contribute to its ultimate success.

The coordination of these multiple efforts requires the establishment of a focal point in ODS for managing the organization, production of studies, and support of Professor May in preparation of the final history. This focal point will be the office of the OSD Historian. A steering committee, with the OSD Historian as chairman, will be formed. Other members will include the Director of Net Assessment and a small number of other selected individuals. With Professor May, the committee will develop a statement of the project, including definitions, terms of reference, and an orderly, comprehensive, and systematic structure of the subject from which may be derived a list of independent and related studies which are intended to provide extensive coverage of all of the key aspects of the subject and provide the foundation for the overall study.

As an important preliminary step, work has already been initiated to procure bibliographies of significant classified and unclassified literature on the subject. In addition, chronologies are being collected for use as inputs to a comprehensive but selective chronology of the overall subject.

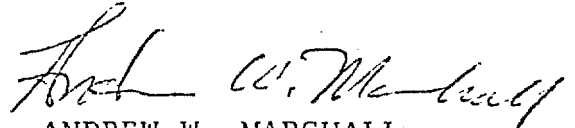
RESOURCES

To support the work on the project, it will be necessary to provide:

1. Adequate funds for additional in-house people who may be needed and for consultants and contract assistance.
2. Working space for the Steering Committee and for Ernest May and his associates. This should include a secure facility to house documents.
3. Additional secretarial and administrative assistance for the Chairman of the Steering Committee to help discharge

coordinating, administrative, and security responsibilities. This appears to require authorization from the Secretary or the Deputy Secretary.

4. Appropriate security clearances for people involved.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Andrew W. Marshall". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Andrew" being more prominent and the last name "Marshall" written in a slightly more formal but still cursive style.

ANDREW W. MARSHALL
Director
Net Assessment